

---

# 100 Years Later

## Perfins in the Abraham Lincoln 1909 Issue

Christian C. Rueger (#1834)

Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809. "100 years later" the first Lincoln commemorative (Scott #367) was produced by the BEP. It was issued by the U.S. Post Office Department on February 12, 1909, for Lincoln's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. The 2-cent value satisfied the then current U.S. single ounce, first-class domestic letter rate and the red color met UPU agreements for the same service.

Today – "100 years later" – on Lincoln's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday, as promised I am updating my previous *Bulletin* article<sup>1</sup>, with more information. This includes additional covers shown on the following pages along with 142 new patterns as part of Table 1.

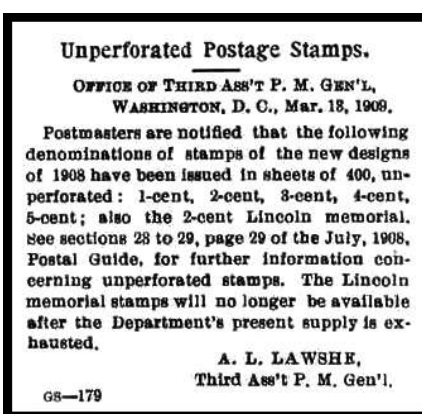
My gift to Old Abe on his 200<sup>th</sup> birthday is a masterlist of #367 with 403 different perfin patterns. This was developed with the help of Brad Baker (LM#3766), John Brandt (LM#14), Steve Endicott (#2284), Mike Falls (LM#131), Bob Schwerdt (#505-L), James Sneed (LM#128), Bob Szymanski (LM#145), and Steven Stratford's web site<sup>2</sup>. Thank you all very much for your help.

I am aware of about 50 covers with a perfined #367 stamp. Most of these covers are very nice Advertising Covers. All postmarks are from 1909. The earliest known use (EKU) is from St. Louis, MO dated February 26, 1909 with pattern S138, Simmons Hardware Co<sup>1</sup>. The latest is from Chicago, IL dated October 12, 1909 with pattern I41, International Harvester Co. It seems that all of the #367 perfins were used in a 9 month period. Was it the nice, handsome commemorative in the size of a regular issue that made this stamp so popular?

The stamp also was issued on the same day in imperforate form (Scott #368). Most of these stamps were used as coil stamps by private perforators in vending and affixing machines. The best-of-the-best is Bob Szymanski's find of a vertical pair with

jumbo margins. The pattern is I17 by International Banking Co., New York, NY.

On March 18, 1909, the OFFICE OF THIRD ASS'T P. M. GEN'L, WASHINGTON, D. C., notified the Postmasters in a notice titled "Unperforated Postage Stamps", "That .... The Lincoln memorial stamps will no longer be available after the Department's present supply is exhausted"<sup>3</sup>. That was only about 5-weeks after the issue of the imperforate stamp.



This was also an era of experimentation in printing methods, papers and perforating of U.S. stamps. In experiments to control shrinkage, the stamp was printed on so-called "bluish

paper" (Scott #369)<sup>4</sup>. The stamps were mostly used in the Washington D.C. area. I am not aware that any #369 perfined stamps have been discovered to date?

I would greatly appreciate receiving information about additional patterns or postmarks that any members might have in their respective collections. Are there any Scott #368 or #369 perfins waiting to be discovered? My address: Christian C. Rueger, Rotbuchenstrasse 4, 90449 Nuernberg, Germany or email me at: [ch.rueger@t-online.de](mailto:ch.rueger@t-online.de) and send a scan if possible.

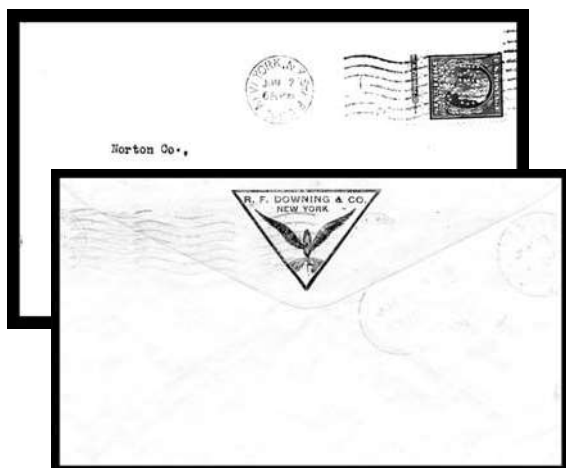
### References:

1. Rueger, C., *The Perfins Bulletin*, July/August 2005, Vol. 59, No. 7, pages 108-112
2. Web site: [www.US1909.com](http://www.US1909.com) maintained by Stephen J. Stratford
3. H.R. Harmer, Inc., Auction #2961, lot: 1063, March 22, 2006
4. Landau, Eliot A., *Scott Stamp Monthly*, February 2009, Vol. 27, No. 2, pages 22-35, 92

# 100 Years Later

## Perfins in the Abraham Lincoln 1909 Issue (cont.)

### Some New #367 Covers



Pattern R61 – RFD/Co – A Rate  
R.F. Downing & Company  
NEW YORK, N.Y. STA. P – June 2, 1909



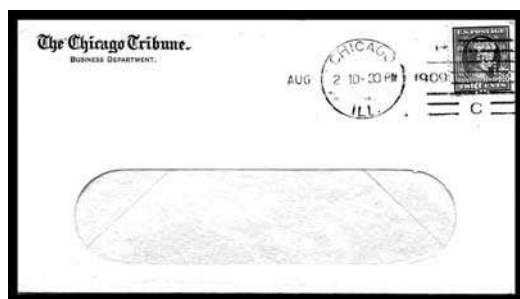
Pattern H14 – HA/Co – C rate  
The Henderson-Ames Company  
KALAMAZOO, MICH. – March 18, 1909



Pattern H172 – HSB/Co – C rate  
Hibbard, Spencer, Barlett & Company  
CHICAGO, ILL – June 3, 1909



Pattern P252 – P&F/C – C rate  
The American Hardware Corporation  
NEW BRITAIN, CONN – March 1, 1909



Pattern T83 – TRIB – C rate  
The Chicago Tribune  
CHICAGO, ILL – August 2, 1909



Pattern G166 – GS/NY – D rate  
Gustav Schirmer Incorporated [Music Publisher]  
NEW YORK, N.Y. STA. O – May 7, 1909

# 100 Years Later

## Perfins in the Abraham Lincoln 1909 Issue (cont.)

**Table 1: Perfin patterns known in SC#367  
(Updated March 2009)**

Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern
A3	A	<b>B270</b>	<b>B&amp;H</b>	<b>D146</b>	<b>D/&amp;Co</b>	G74	GEC/Co
A40	AB/Co	<b>B290</b>	<b>B&amp;S</b>	D155	D/18	<b>G76</b>	<b>GES/Co</b>
A42	ABD	<b>C6</b>	<b>[O(&lt;&gt;)](C)</b>	E7	[EAC](o)	<b>G101</b>	<b>G(IN)N</b>
A48	AB/NY	C15	CAA/&C	E50	[<E>HF]	G106	GIR/ARD
A53	AB/&Co	C31.3	C/(A)Y(C)	<b>E55</b>	<b>EJG/Co</b>	<b>G151</b>	<b>G(R)AY</b>
A75	ACI/Co	C43	CBQ	<b>E70</b>	<b>ELIAS</b>	G166	GS/NY
<b>A76</b>	<b>ACL</b>	<b>C54</b>	<b>CB/&amp;Co</b>	E84	EMP	<b>G179</b>	<b>GTH</b>
A87.2	[AC/o]	C63	[CC]	<b>E90</b>	<b>Heart[EO]</b>	H14	HA/Co
<b>A87.9</b>	<b>[AC/o]</b>	<b>C65</b>	<b>CCC</b>	<b>E96</b>	<b>EP/Co</b>	H15	HAC/&Co
<b>A102</b>	<b>[AE]L/Co.</b>	C68	Heart(CC/C)	E96A	EPC(o)	H18	HAL
A162	AK/C	C68A	Heart(CC/C)	E103	ERIE	H29	HBC/Co
A179	AMC	C76	C(C)H	E110	ES	<b>H42</b>	<b>HC/Co</b>
A187.4	AM/ICE	C94	CC/&S	E117	E(SL)	<b>H43</b>	<b>HC/Co</b>
A187.5	AM./ICE	C96	C-D	E118	ESS	<b>H44</b>	<b>HC/Co</b>
A221-1A	AR	<b>C102A</b>	<b>CDG/Co</b>	F8	Diamond(F)	<b>H54</b>	<b>H/(Co)</b>
A236	ART	C108	C(E)	<b>F25</b>	<b>FAIR</b>	H82	H.H./C.C.
A254A	ASF	C111	CE/Co	F25.5	FAIR	H89	HI/Co
A264	AS/&B	<b>C118</b>	<b>CE/NB</b>	<b>F37</b>	<b>FB/Co</b>	H91	HILL
A265	AT	C127	[CFE]	F42.5	FB/&Co	<b>H95</b>	<b>HKC</b>
A265A	AT	<b>C145</b>	<b>C-H</b>	F92	FJM	<b>H116</b>	<b>HMC</b>
A267A	ATC	<b>C156</b>	<b>CHO</b>	<b>F96</b>	<b>FL</b>	H127	HNB
A268	(A)TC(o)	<b>C177</b>	<b>CJ/NY</b>	<b>F109</b>	<b>F&lt;McK&gt;C(o)</b>	<b>H138</b>	<b>HO/AST</b>
A276	AWB	C177.8A	C[JW]O	F110A	FML	H149	H[OY]T
<b>A280</b>	<b>AWP</b>	C182	CL	F114.5	FM/&Co	H172	HSB/&Co
A304	A&S	C198	CMC/Co	F127	F/NB	<b>H182</b>	<b>HSP</b>
B2	B	<b>C207</b>	<b>CMT/Co</b>	F129	FNB	H207	HWP
B12.5	Diamond(B)	C255	C(o)oK/Co	F144	FOP	H211	H&B
B15	Star(B)	<b>C258</b>	<b>CP</b>	F193	FS/J	H222	H&H
B23	BAP	<b>C266</b>	<b>[CP](B)</b>	<b>F197</b>	<b>FS/NB</b>	H228	H&NYT
B29	BA/&Co	<b>C278</b>	<b>CPR</b>	F219	F&C	I2	I
B48	BB/CC(o)	<b>C290</b>	<b>CR/Co</b>	F234	F&W/Co	I9	(A)I(C)
B49	BB/Co	C294	CRR/NJ	G10	Diamond(G)	I17	IBC (#368 pair)
B55	BBH/Co	C347	CT/Co	<b>G15</b>	<b>GA</b>	I21	IC
<b>B82</b>	<b>B/Co</b>	C355	CUA/Co.	<b>G18</b>	<b>GA</b>	I41	IHC
<b>B88</b>	<b>BD/Co</b>	C356.1	CUD/AHY	G23	GAI/Co	<b>I51</b>	<b>IM/Co</b>
<b>B94</b>	<b>B[EC]K</b>	C360	C(W)	G47	GB/&M	I76.5	[IR]
B110	BFC/Co	<b>C366</b>	<b>CW/LIFE</b>	G49	[GCB]	<b>I87</b>	<b>ISC</b>
B113	BF/Co	C382	C(Y)C	<b>G64</b>	<b>GC/&amp;T</b>	<b>I91.1</b>	<b>ISC(o)</b>
B118	BFG/Co	C422	C(8)	G67	GDB	<b>I116</b>	<b>I/WILL</b>
<b>B126</b>	<b>BFU</b>	<b>C424</b>	<b>C(10)</b>	G72-1	G(E)	<b>I119.5</b>	<b>I/WILL</b>
B139	BIG/4	C425	C(11)	<b>G72-2B</b>	<b>G(E)</b>	I123	I&T
B151	B/L	<b>D16</b>	<b>DBC/Co</b>	<b>G72-2C</b>	<b>G(E)</b>	J8	JBE
B167	BMP/Co	D21	D(C)	<b>G72-7</b>	<b>G(E)</b>	J80	JKO
B202	BRC	D36	Diamond(DE)	<b>G72-9</b>	<b>G(E)</b>	<b>J81</b>	<b>JKO</b>
B227	BSF	D63	D(M)	<b>G72-14</b>	<b>G(E)</b>	J82	JK/&Co
B233	BTC	<b>D76</b>	<b>DNE/WCo</b>	<b>G72-21</b>	<b>G(E)</b>	J84	J Bar L
<b>B235.5</b>	<b>BT/Co</b>	<b>D92</b>	<b>DR</b>	G72-32	G(E)	<b>J108.5</b>	<b>JM/Co</b>
B241	B-V	<b>D94</b>	<b>DR/Co</b>	<b>G72-36</b>	<b>G(E)</b>	J125	JPH/Co
<b>B258</b>	<b>B&amp;B</b>	D119	Dun	G72-48	G(E)	<b>J127</b>	<b>JPS</b>
B266	B&D	D136	DW	G73	GEB	J134	JR/S

Note: Patterns in **Bold** are additions to the checklist published in *The Perfins Bulletin*, July/August 2005 (59:108-112).

# 100 Years Later

## Perfins in the Abraham Lincoln 1909 Issue (cont.)

**Table 1: Perfin patterns known in SC#367 (cont.)  
(Updated March 2009)**

Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern
J141	JSB/&Co	<b>N36</b>	<b>NB/PCo</b>	R20	RBC	S338	S/&Co
J160	JT/S	<b>N36.5</b>	NB/REPUBLIC	R26	RB/&E	<b>S338.9</b>	<b>S./&amp;Co</b>
K4	K		<b>"B"</b>	R54	REC/ORD	S352	S&M
K5	Circle(K)		<b>"R"</b>	R61	RFD/&Co	S355	S&S
K7	[KA][BO]		<b>"P"</b>	R69	R-H	S367	S&W/Co
K47	KNK		<b>"L"</b>	R75	RI	<b>T12</b>	<b>TB</b>
L3	L		<b>"I"</b>	<b>R86.3</b>	<b>RIC(O)/LD</b>	T28	TC/&S
L8	Circle(L)	N41	NCB	<b>R87</b>	<b>RIC(o)/LD</b>	T43.5	TG&/TCo
<b>L44</b>	<b>L-B/Co.</b>	N54	NCS	R103	R/M cN	T68	TM/Co
L55-1	LC/Co	N59	N&C/SCo	R106	RMM/Co	T76	TM&/NCo
L55-5	LC./Co	<b>N67</b>	<b>NE/LA</b>	<b>R116</b>	<b>RP@</b>	T80	TRA/SL
<b>L55-6</b>	<b>LC./Co.</b>	<b>N75</b>	<b>NES/Co</b>	R116.5	[RPS]	T83	TRIB
<b>L55-8</b>	<b>LC./Co.</b>	N81	NF/C	R117	RP/&Co	T87	[TRT]
<b>L56.5</b>	<b>L/Co</b>	N101	NKF	R119	R-R	<b>T107</b>	<b>TTC(o)</b>
L61	L(C)P/Co	<b>N102</b>	<b>NKF.</b>	<b>R121A</b>	<b>RRD</b>	U13	[UCL]
L76	LEW/Co	N103	NL	R151	R&B	U19	UCS/Co
<b>L77</b>	<b>LEW/Co</b>	<b>N148</b>	<b>NSC</b>	<b>R159</b>	<b>R/&amp;Co</b>	<b>U52</b>	<b>UO/Co</b>
L118	L(M)C	N151	NS/Co	R163	R&G	U64	U(PC)
<b>L128</b>	<b>LOFTIS</b>	N182A	NYC	R173	R&W	U75	US/F&G
L135	LBarS	N190	NYE/Co	S6	S	U79	USI/Co
L146	LS/&/MS	N192	NY/MAIL	<b>S7</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>U83</b>	<b>USM/Co</b>
L150	LTI/&TC	<b>N202</b>	<b>NY/SUN</b>	<b>S18</b>	<b>[Arrow S]</b>	U99.7	[UT]
L156	LV	N204	NYT	S26	SAKS	U103	UTH
<b>L159.5</b>	<b>LW</b>	N207	NY/UA	S46.3	SBB/Co	<b>V17</b>	<b>VLA</b>
L173	L&D	O12	O(B)	S64	S-C/Envelope	V31	V&A
L174	L&F	O24	OD/SS	<b>S69</b>	<b>SC(C(o))</b>	W7	W
M26	MA/NY	<b>O32</b>	<b>OHIO</b>	S76	S-C/MCo	<b>W7.9</b>	<b>W</b>
M40 or 40A	MB/Co	<b>O40</b>	<b>OJG</b>	<b>S78</b>	<b>SC(o)</b>	<b>W7.12</b>	<b>W.</b>
M46	MC	<b>O74</b>	<b>OTC</b>	S129	SG/Co	W12	Flag(W)
M73	MC/LH	<b>O76</b>	<b>OTIS</b>	<b>S130</b>	<b>S-G/Co</b>	W17	WA/Co
<b>M90</b>	<b>MC/RR</b>	O77	O.TIS	<b>S131</b>	<b>SGI/Co</b>	<b>W57.5</b>	<b>W/CO</b>
M106A	MET/LIFE	<b>P22</b>	<b>PB/C</b>	S138	SH/Co	<b>W58</b>	<b>W/C(o)</b>
<b>M106B</b>	<b>MET/LIFE</b>	P51	P/Co	S164	SK/Co	<b>W75A</b>	<b>W-E/Co</b>
M109	Circle([MF])	P56	PD/Co	<b>S165</b>	<b>SKF</b>	W80	W/EM
<b>M123</b>	<b>MBarG</b>	P56.21	PD/Co.	<b>S167.5</b>	<b>SKF</b>	W83	WESTON
<b>M129</b>	<b>[MH]</b>	P57	PDG	<b>S170</b>	<b>SKF</b>	W112	WI/&Co
M130	(M) Bar (H)	P101	PH	S195-19	SO	<b>W113</b>	<b>WJD</b>
<b>M161</b>	<b>ML/IC</b>	P112	PI/CO	S215	SP	W126	WM/CCo
M173	MM/Co	P132	PM	S219	SP(A)	<b>W129</b>	<b>WO/&amp;S</b>
<b>M177</b>	<b>MMI/Co</b>	P138	PM C/Co	S228	S(P/L)	<b>W142</b>	<b>WNU</b>
M185	M (NB)	P143	PM/Co	S233	S(P/S)	<b>W146.5</b>	<b>WO/Co</b>
M191	MOR/LEY	<b>P150</b>	<b>PNB</b>	S253	SSC	W183	W-S/Co
M192	MOR/RIS	P183	PP/Co	S266	SSM	W195	WTC(o)
<b>M196</b>	<b>MOR/RIS</b>	P199	PRR/Co	S272	SSW	W195.5	WTC(o)
M204	MP/Co	<b>P200</b>	<b>PRR/Co</b>	<b>S272.4</b>	<b>SSW.....</b>	W216	W&/JS
M217	MRC	P222	PS/Co	<b>S292</b>	<b>SUN</b>	W218	W&K
M219A	MR/Co	P248	P&/Co	S314	SW/Co	<b>Y10</b>	<b>Y&amp;L</b>
M224	MR/M	P252	P&F/C	S328	SYS/TEM	Y11	Y&T
M237	M-S	<b>Q3</b>	<b>QI/Co</b>	S330	S&B	<b>#22</b>	<b>3Ws</b>
<b>N10</b>	<b>Diamond(N)</b>	R3.7	[IR]	<b>S333</b>	<b>S&amp;B</b>	<b>Des.9</b>	<b>Calipers</b>
<b>N12</b>	<b>NAA</b>	<b>R6</b>	<b>Circle(R)</b>	S334.5	S&C	<b>Des.19</b>	<b>Diamond</b>

Note: Patterns in **Bold** are additions to the checklist published in *The Perfins Bulletin*, July/August 2005(59:108-112).